

(b) contacting said bacteria to be killed or inhibited with a peptide nucleic acid, wherein said peptide nucleic acid comprises a sequence complementary to a target nucleic acid sequence of said bacteria, said target nucleic acid sequence being essential to the viability of said bacteria.

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph spanning page 18, line 33 to page 19, line 7 with the following:



The specificity of PNAs SEQ ID NOs. 6 and 7 for two β -lactamase gene mutants was determined by repeating the above procedure with the following changes. One of the β -lactamase gene mutants contained 2 non-essential base substitutions (pLAC-2) and the other of the genes contained 6 non-essential base substitutions (pLac-6) as shown below:

- 5'-AA AGG AAG AGU AUG AGU AUU CAA CAU U-3' unmodified (SEQ ID NO. 28)
- 5'—AA AGG AAG ACA AUG AGU AUU CAA CAU U—3' (pLAC-2) (SEQ ID NO. 29)
- 5'—AA AGG AGG CCU AUG UCG AUU CAA CAU U—3' (pLAC-6) (SEQ ID NO. 30)

Met. (start codon)

REMARKS

Claims 23, 25, 27, 28, 55, and 56 stand rejected as allegedly lacking enablement.

Claims 23 and 55 have been amended consistent with the scope that the Office Action has acknowledged as enabled. As such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

In regard to the allegation of sequence rule non-compliance, the specification is amended at page 18, line 33 to page 19, line 7 to include SEQ ID NOs. 28-30. The paragraph is presented in replacement form, rather than marked up form, because the existing text